Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 5-7, and 9-13 to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An image printing and reading apparatus comprising:

a printing unit to print an image on a print sheet conveyed through a print sheet path;

a reading unit to read a document conveyed through a document path, having a common part belonging to said print sheet path and said document path;

a reference white board for shading correction used by said reading unit upon execution of prescanning; and

a moving unit to move said reading unit and said reference white board to a document reading position when said reading unit executes document reading, ~~on the other hand,~~ and to move said reading unit and said reference white board to a retreat position in which the influence of ambient light is reduced at least upon execution of prescanning.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the retreat position is a position within a casing of said image printing and reading apparatus and away from

~~said~~ <u>the</u> document reading position.

3.-4.   (Cancelled)

5.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a

detection unit to detect occurrence of jam in the common ~~path~~ <u>part</u> belonging to said print sheet

path and said document path,

wherein if said detection unit has not detected the occurrence of jam, said reading unit

executes the prescanning.

6.   (Currently Amended) A prescanning method in an image printing and reading

apparatus including[[:]] a printing unit to print an image on a print sheet conveyed through a

print sheet path[[;]], a reading unit to read a document conveyed through a document path,

having a common part belonging to ~~said~~ <u>the</u> print sheet path and ~~said~~ <u>the</u> document path[[;]], and

a reference white board for shading correction used by ~~said~~ <u>the</u> reading unit upon execution of

prescanning, said method comprising:

a step of moving ~~said~~ the reading unit and ~~said~~ the reference white board to a document

reading position when ~~said~~ the reading unit executes document reading, ~~on the other hand,~~ and to

move ~~said~~ the reading unit and ~~said~~ the reference white board to a retreat position in which the

influence of ambient light is reduced at least upon execution of prescanning; and

a step of executing the prescanning when ~~said~~ the reading unit and ~~said~~ the reference

white board are in ~~said~~ the retreat position.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein the retreat

position is a position within a casing of ~~said~~ the image printing and reading apparatus and away

from ~~said~~ the document reading position.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, further comprising a step

of detecting occurrence of jam in the common ~~path~~ part belonging to ~~said~~ the print sheet path and

~~said~~ the document path,

wherein if the occurrence of jam has not been detected, the prescanning is executed.

10.   (Currently Amended) An image printing and reading apparatus comprising:

a printing unit to print an image on a print sheet conveyed through a print sheet path;

a reading unit to read a document conveyed through a document path, having a common part belonging to said print sheet path and said document path;

a reference white board for shading correction used by said reading unit upon execution of prescanning;

a moving unit to move said reading unit and said reference white board to a document reading position when said reading unit executes document reading, ~~on the other hand,~~ <u>and</u> to move said reading unit and said reference white board in a direction deviated from a color material discharging direction at least when said printing unit executes printing; and

a detection unit to detect occurrence of jam in the common ~~path~~ <u>part</u> belonging to said print sheet path and said document path[[;]]<u>,</u>

wherein if said detection unit has not detected the occurrence of jam, said reading unit executes the prescanning.

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11.   (Currently Amended) A prescanning ~~image~~ method in an image printing and reading apparatus including[[:]] a printing unit to print an image on a print sheet conveyed through a print sheet path[[;]], a reading unit to read a document conveyed through a document path, having a common part belonging to ~~said~~ the print sheet path and ~~said~~ the document path[[;]], and a reference white board for shading correction used by ~~said~~ the reading unit upon execution of prescanning, said method comprising[[;]]:

a step of moving ~~said~~ the reading unit and ~~said~~ the reference white board to a document reading position when ~~said~~ the reading unit executes document reading, ~~on the other hand,~~ and moving ~~said~~ the reading unit and ~~said~~ the reference white board in a direction deviated from a color material discharging direction to a retreat position at least when ~~said~~ the printing unit executes printing;

a step of performing the prescanning when ~~said~~ the reading unit and ~~said~~ the reference white board are in ~~said~~ the retreat position; and

a step of detecting occurrence of jam in the common ~~path~~ part belonging to ~~said~~ the print sheet path and ~~said~~ the document path,

wherein if the occurrence of jam has not been detected, the prescanning is

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executed.

       12.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 2, further

comprising a detection unit to detect occurrence of jam in the common ~~path~~ <u>part</u> belonging to

said print sheet path and said document path,

       wherein if said detection unit has not detected the occurrence of jam, said reading

unit executes the prescanning.

       13.   (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 7, further

comprising a step of detecting occurrence of jam in the common ~~path~~ <u>part</u> belonging to ~~said~~ <u>the</u>

print sheet path and ~~said~~ <u>the</u> document path,

       wherein if the occurrence of jam has not been detected, the prescanning is

executed.